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## The UCF Report, Vol. 21 No. 19, April 16, 1999

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# UCF Report

Volume 21 • No. 19 • April 16, 1999

A publication for faculty and staff

## Burnetts honor UCF with \$1.48 million gift

The Al and Nancy Burnett donation lays the foundation for a \$3 million building to house the Honors College

**P**lans for a \$2.9 million building to serve UCF's Honors College moved into high gear earlier this month with the announcement of a \$1.48 million gift that will enable the study and classroom facility to be completed within 18-20 months.

President John Hitt identified Al and Nancy Burnett, former owners of Contemporary Cars of Maitland, as the donors of the gift benefiting the university's 964 high-achieving honors students. The nearly \$1.5 million comes from part of the proceeds from the recent sale of the couple's Mercedes automobile dealership. The gift will be matched dollar-for-dollar under a state-funded program that encourages private giving for capital construction projects in the State University System.

"The Burnetts once again have demonstrated

their commitment to higher education in general and to UCF in particular," Hitt said. "Their gift provides fresh momentum for one of UCF's most successful academic initiatives. I can think of no more fitting way to honor the generosity, friendship and leadership of the Burnetts than to name our Honors College after them. I will pursue the newly established Board of Regents process for doing so."

The Burnetts are UCF's most generous donors, having contributed more than \$2.5 million to the

Please see HONORS, page 3



Jacque Brund

Longtime basketball buddies (from left) Ken Renner, John Salter and (far right) Jim Gracey will compete in the 1999 National Senior Games at Disney's Wide World of Sports. Also pictured is practice player Fred Eisele (second from right). Not shown is Dave Anderton.

## Hoop Dreams

After winning state basketball title in 1997, UCF foursome will play in nationals

**F**our diehard basketball players with the glory days of high school and college long behind them have found a bit of notoriety and tons of fun beating other "old guys."

UCF's Jim Gracey, John Salter and Ken Renner and one-time Research Park worker Dave Anderton — the foursome are self-dubbed The UCF Fossils — are so good they won the 3-on-3 1997 Florida Senior Games and might

Please see HOOPS, page 6

## Human Resources moving to Research Park

Sponsored Research will join Human Resources until the air-handling system is replaced in the Administration Building

**T**he Offices of Human Resources and Sponsored Research are moving out of their longtime homes in the Administration

Building this summer and into new, leased offices in the Research Park.

For Sponsored Research, the move is expected to be temporary. But there are no current plans for Human Resources to return to campus. The air-handling system in the vacated suites on the second floor of the Administration Building will be replaced while those offices are empty.

Sponsored Research will move as soon as suites are ready in the Orlando Tech Center, across from

the Research Pavilion. Human Resources will likely follow in July, moving into the new University Tech Center, just south of the Physical Plant on Libra Drive at the corner of Discovery Drive and Research Parkway.

Human Resources Director Mark Roberts says one of the benefits to relocating is the Human Resources staff — several of whom had previously

Please see HUMAN RESOURCES, page 2

# April

Next issue of The UCF Report is April 30 • Deadline is noon, April 21

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# ETC., ETC.

## Memo

**To:** Faculty, A & P staff  
**From:** Kelly Shilton, Registrar's Office  
**Subject:** Commencement, procession of faculty and A&P

Commencement ceremonies are scheduled for Saturday, May 8, in the UCF Arena:

- 8 a.m. — College of Arts and Sciences;
- Noon — College of Business Administration;
- 3:30 p.m. — Colleges of Education and Engineering;
- 7:30 p.m. — College of Health and Public Affairs.

Line-up for the procession will be 20 minutes prior to each ceremony in the corridor outside room 115. Enter the arena on the first level under the main entrance

stairway and proceed down the right corridor. Signs will be posted. Major professors assisting the doctoral hooding join their candidate(s) in the right corridor.

Area roads are heavily congested prior to the ceremonies. Plan accordingly. Your academic regalia will serve as your "parking pass" for reserved parking in lot F-1 on the east side of the arena.

Please call if I may provide additional information at 823-2842.

## CROP puts college in reach for all worthy kids

With the market for top jobs expected to become even more competitive in the coming years, a college education is more important than ever, experts say. With that in mind, UCF's College Reach-Out Program, or CROP, is determined to make sure no worthy student misses the opportunity to earn a college degree — even if their parents are not college graduates and their families are not in the best financial situation.

CROP is designed to motivate students who might not have the parental support or the financial ability to attend college. Students in sixth-12th grade are chosen by their guidance counselors to participate in the program.

Students in the program participate in workshops and seminars held on the university campus and at their respective schools during the academic year and summer. College tours and field trips to places of cultural and historical significance enhance the learning experiences and motivates students to make early college and career decisions.

The 15-year-old CROP is state funded. It has assisted 4,200 students since its inception. Currently, 402 students are involved in the program. UCF is the only four-year institution participating. Brevard, Daytona Beach, Seminole, Valencia and Lake Sumpter community colleges are also involved with six middle and 11 high schools in Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties.

"These are the students who need a push. Their parents are not college grads, so these students may not be getting the push at home to go to school. Our goal is to nurture the academic aspirations of the students and help them gain the right attitude about college," says Emily Santiago, director for CROP at UCF.

The program seems to be having a positive effect.

"The CROP program has been so important in my life. The staff puts a lot of time and energy into good workshops and the counselors really care. They have been essential in my getting to where I am today. The people really care; it's like a family," says UCF senior Summer Blanding.

Blanding spent two years at Brevard Community College before transferring to UCF. "I still go to meetings and help out with the kids. I hope this program is as beneficial to them as it has been to me," she says.

— Paul Wilson

## Downtown art center in spotlight

Performing Arts and Education Center will be built just east of Orlando's City Hall

The development of the Orlando Performing Arts and Education Center is "an exciting, unprecedented opportunity ... to move Orlando into center stage," President John Hitt told business and community leaders attending a UCF-hosted breakfast meeting focusing on the arts.

The center "accelerates UCF's development in performing arts by at least a decade," he said at the meeting, held this month in Orlando.

While the center is still in its planning phase, Orlando officials have set aside nine acres for it just east of City Hall. The center is expected to house a 2,000-seat theater for opera, dance and traveling productions and two smaller theaters that can be used as recital halls and provide a showcase for UCF students. Also in the works are rehearsal halls, classrooms, academic offices, a cinema, boutiques and dining areas.

"Arts stimulate, challenge and entertain. [They are] extremely important components to attract the kinds of businesses we want to our city," Hitt added.



Jacque Brund

Theater students perform at the breakfast meeting.

The center will allow for the expansion and enhancement of UCF's undergraduate and graduate programs. College of Arts and Sciences Dean Kathryn Seidel said that the size of both the music and theater departments — with about 200 students each — is expected to triple. She said that for every student musician or actor who benefits from the center, 10 people will find jobs behind the scenes. "Our arts programs will become among the top in the country," she said.

Rewards for UCF's partners, the

city of Orlando and the surrounding community are great, said Brenda Robinson, executive director of Arts and Cultural Affairs for Orlando. Beyond an improved quality of life, it is projected that for every dollar spent on center activities, \$10 will be fed into the local economy. Tourists and locals are expected to be drawn to the center and spend more money in Orlando than the typical person, she said.

"Arts and culture bring life back to cities and downtowns," she added.

— Susan Loden

### HUMAN RESOURCES, continued from page 1

moved out of the Administration Building because of unexplained illnesses — will be reunited.

"There are pluses and minuses, but this is the only prospect we have for getting together," he says. "I have mixed feelings, but it is better for us to be all together."

While Roberts admits the location may be slightly inconvenient for UCF employees accustomed to dashing into Human Resources to pick up forms or make payroll transactions, he says there will be plenty of parking at the Research Park building. "This will be more convenient for those who drive to us," he promises.

Roberts adds that most forms used by Human Resources are available on the Internet. Other questions related to access for the general campus workforce are still being worked out. Ideas being kicked around are a drive-up window, a shuttle and a courier assigned to campus.

Human Resources' training staff will move out of the Research Pavilion and the employment office will move from a portable building to join Roberts and the rest of Human

Resources in an 8,000-square-foot suite. UCF is leasing another 12,000 square feet in the building to serve as a research and development partnership "incubation facility" where technology will transfer from the minds and labs of UCF researchers into the hands of industry, according to M.J. Soileau, interim vice president for Research.

Soileau says he hopes the other move of his administrative offices into the Orlando Technological Center is brief. "We plan to move back ... I might stay behind [in the Administration Building] with an administrative aide for awhile, but we can't stay [in the Administration Building] during the renovation."

The Small Business Development Center and the Central Florida Innovation Corp., an offshoot of Enterprise Florida, will join facets of the College of Engineering and the School of Optics/CREOL, as well as Scottish Trade International, an economic development branch of Scotland, in the University Tech Center. In addition, space will be available to private industry tenants. "It's meant to be

a place for new companies to start; particularly those that want to use technology that comes from the university," Soileau says.

University officials will determine which departments will replace Human Resources in the Administration Building once the renovation is complete, says Ed Neighbor, associate vice president for Academic Affairs, who is charged with finding space for university entities. He says the move could cause a domino effect as other departments move into vacated space.

"We have no current plan to bring Human Resources back [on campus]," Neighbor says. "This is not meant to be a short-term thing."

Neighbor adds that UCF's rapid growth is forcing administrators to look for innovative ways to deal with the space crunch.

"As the person in Academic Affairs most directly concerned with space and where to put people, yes, there is a problem," he says. "But it's the best possible problem a university could have — that of growth."

— Susan Loden



# Short Takes

## Volusia County gets on university's bus

UCF will be more visible in Volusia County now that a Votran bus is rolling through the county with a large Pegasus painted on the side. The bus was designed to make people more aware of the UCF Daytona Beach campus.

## Awards honor first black professor

The Dr. John T. Washington Awards Luncheon, "Service and Success in the 21st Century," is Tuesday, April 22, noon-2 p.m., in the Student Union, Key West Ballroom. The ceremony, sponsored by the African American Studies Program, is a celebration of the legacy and life of Washington, UCF's first African American faculty member. Cost is \$35 (\$20 students) or \$250 for a corporate table. For information, call 823-0026.

## Don't forget Garden of Remembrance

The Retirement Association reminds the campus community that the Garden of Remembrance fundraising campaign is still in progress. The association is asking everyone to consider making a contribution to help make the memorial to UCF workers a reality. Tax deductible contributions can be made to the UCF Foundation, 12424 Research Parkway, Suite 100, Orlando, 32826. The UCF Foundation phone number is 249-4740.

## Ignore holiday date listed in catalog

Come May you will want to ignore the date for Memorial Day listed in the Undergraduate Catalog. Memorial Day, a universitywide holiday, is listed on page 10 of the catalog as May 24; it's May 31.

## Upcoming holiday

Want some time off? Better take a vacation. The next universitywide holiday isn't until Memorial Day, May 31.

## This issue

This issue of *The UCF Report* is for the weeks of April 16-22 and April 23-29. It is the 19th issue of fiscal year 1998-99. *The UCF Report* is published 23 times a year (every other week in the fall and spring, and every third week in the summer).

## The UCF Report

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# Race, ethnicity get hard look

UCF commission is exploring ways to improve campus conditions for minorities

UCF is taking a long, hard look at how it's doing when it comes to racial and ethnic minorities in the university atmosphere. The President's Commission on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities is in the fact-finding phase of its study. A final report will be ready in 2000.

"We will assess the working environment for faculty, staff, students, including those at branch campuses. We will be looking at the conditions that promote academic and professional achievement," says Jose Fernandez, interim associate dean for the College of Arts and Sciences, who is heading the commission. "We're also studying the recruitment and retention of students and faculty and examining the social climate."

The 19-member commission — which includes faculty, staff and students — has six committees taking on various responsibilities: gathering data,

conducting surveys, devising strategies for creating awareness of racial and ethnic minority issues at UCF and plans for disseminating its findings to the UCF community.

"We've conducted focus groups and will be conducting surveys. We will also have consultants provide advice," Fernandez says. "We want to know what some of the issues are and what opportunities exist for advancement."

Following the fact gathering, the commission will recommend changes in policy, practices and procedures to improve the overall environment. The commission will look for ways to improve equitable education, professional and social conditions that will allow for full participation by racial and ethnic minorities.

The commission will also work with the Strategic Planning Council to ensure that diversity and inclusiveness are germane to the Strategic Plan.

"I think we'll have some positive recommendations which will hopefully make UCF a better place to be for everyone," says Fernandez.

— Joanne Griggs



Jacque Brund

Longtime friends of UCF Al and Nancy Burnett donated \$1.48 million for a campus Honors College building. Their gift will be matched by the state of Florida.

HONORS, continued from page 1

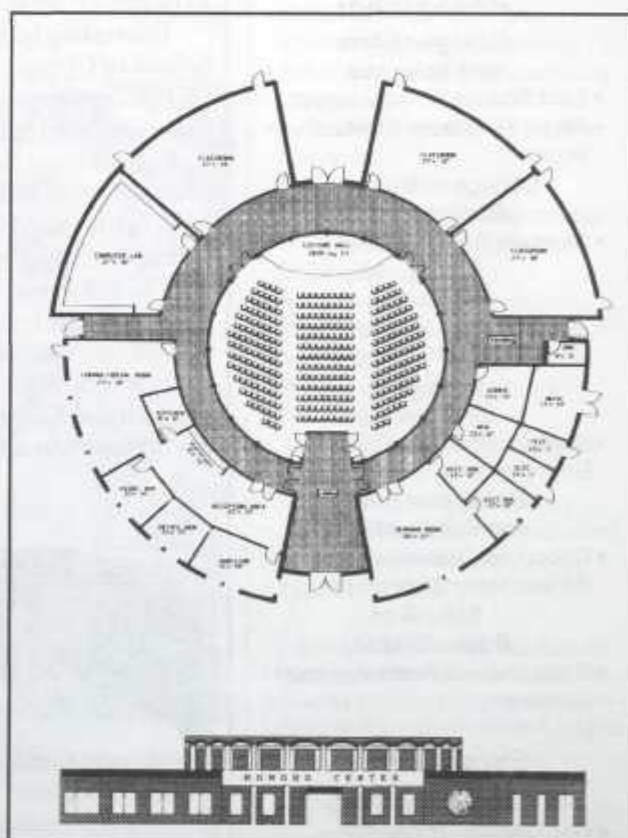
university over the years. Among other things, previous gifts have included an eminent scholar chair in accounting in the College of Business Administration and the lead gift for the UCF president's home, which is heavily used for fund raising and official entertainment functions.

Preliminary conceptual plans for the Honors building call for a circular building of 12,450 gross square feet to be built off Pegasus Circle, between the Visual Arts Building and the Barnes and Noble Bookstore. The facility will house classrooms, a computer lab, a social-study lounge, offices and an honors symposia lecture hall with more than 300 seats.

Students gain admission to the Honors College on the strength of their academic performance in high school or as juniors transferring from community college honors programs. UCF honors classes, taught by top faculty members drawn from UCF's five academic colleges, generally are restricted to 20 students.

Last July, the Board of Regents conferred college status on UCF's honors program on the strength of its rapidly growing size and stature. With the arrival of last fall's honors participants, the number of enrolled honors students closed in on 1,000, up from 534 two years earlier. The 1998 fall class of honors freshmen came to UCF boasting an average Scholastic Aptitude Test score of 1,275.

The facility will require about one year to build, following the hiring of an architect and preparation



of detailed specifications, which could consume six months or so, according to William Merck, vice president for Administration and Finance.

— Dean McFall



### Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

#### College of Arts and Science

- Robert Davis (School of Communication)
- Kerstin Hamann (Political Science)
- Susan Hubbard (English)
- Dan Jones (English)
- Humberto Lopez (Foreign Languages and Literatures)
- Otto Phanstiel (Chemistry)
- Paul Puccio (English)
- Walter Taylor (Biology)
- Michael Newlin (Psychology)

#### College of Business Administration

- Kristy Ellis-Reynolds (Marketing)
- #### College of Education
- Karen Verkler (Instructional Programs)
  - Jeanne Miller (Educational Foundations)

#### College of Engineering

- Sherif El-Tawil (Civil and Environmental Engineering)
- William Thompson (Industrial Engineering and Management Systems)
- Larry Chew (Mechanical Materials and Aerospace Engineering)

#### College of Health and Public Affairs

- David Fabianic (Criminal Justice and Legal Studies)
- Melvin Rogers (Public Administration)

### Excellence in Graduate Teaching

#### College of Arts and Sciences

- Jack Stout (Biology)
- #### College of Business Administration
- Jaishankar Ganesh (Marketing)

#### College of Education

- George Pawlas (Educational Services)

#### College of Engineering

- Sashi Kunnath (Civil and Environmental Engineering)

#### College of Health and Public Affairs

- Karen Dow (School of Nursing)
- #### School of Optics/CREOL
- Eric Van Stryland

### Distinguished Researcher

#### College of Arts and Sciences

- Clint Bowers (Psychology)
- Roger Handberg (Political Science)

#### College of Business Administration

- Stephen Borde (Finance)

#### College of Education

- Judith Schick-Johnson (Instructional Programs)

#### College of Engineering

- Haitham Al-Deek (Civil and Environmental Engineering)

#### College of Health and Public Affairs

- Debopam Chakrabarti (Molecular and Microbiology)

#### School of Optics/CREOL

- Peter Delfyett (Institutes and Centers)

### Excellence in Librarianship

- Gary Hyslop (Curriculum Materials Center)

# Founders Day honors present, recalls past

UCF's 11th annual Founders Day Honors Convocation was April 7. The celebration included awards to faculty and students for outstanding academic achievements and recognition of faculty with 20 and 30 years of service.

President John Hitt made a special presentation to founding President Charles Millican, noting that Millican retired before the stained glass mementos of Pegasus were given to retiring faculty. "Some of you ... will remember how instrumental Charlie was in the selection of the Pegasus. Charlie felt that UCF had a unique opportunity to select a seal that would be special and beautiful as well as symbolic of what we wanted

to achieve as a university. I think he succeeded with the selection of the Pegasus."

Hitt noted that Founders Day is not only recognition of high-achieving members of the current university community, but "a time when we remember the dedication of those whose past efforts made today's ceremony possible. They include the university's founders, who worked to establish this institution, and the charter faculty, who nurtured and guided the fledging university. The achievements we will recognize today confirm the merit of the past efforts of our founders and demonstrate that our dedication to excellence continues."



Photos: Jacque Brund

President John Hitt presented charter President Charles Millican with an overdue retirement gift.

## And the winners are ...

When a boy, Peter Delfyett

wanted to be a paleontologist. Which might explain why he's successful in the high-tech world of photonic technologies.

Plastic figurines weren't enough to satisfy Delfyett's early interest in dinosaurs. So he explored every aspect of the prehistoric creatures, down to the spelling of "paleontology." His curiosity in the sciences

remained strong all through school. "Whenever a science teacher said 'don't do this,' I knew something neat was going to happen," he says.

Interestingly, the



### Distinguished Researcher

School of Optics/CREOL professor and former street band drummer once had dreams of becoming a musician. That changed at the City College of New York when he discovered that he was attracted to more stable employment prospects in engineering. There, he was intrigued by an optics course. "I took that course and it turned my head around," he says.

The field combined the intellectual challenge of hard science and beauty of art. It was a perfect match. Delfyett came to UCF in 1983, the year he was chosen Black Engineer of the Year by *U.S. Black Engineer* magazine. In 1996, he received a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, the highest honor bestowed in that area by the U.S. government.

— Barb Compton



Haitham Al-Deek is likely the only person who moved to Orlando because of the potential for improving transportation. As director of the Transportation Systems Institute, he thrives on finding solutions to problems that drive others nuts — i.e., traffic jams.

In five years, Al-Deek has brought \$2.7 million to UCF for research. Most of it for three projects: a traffic surveillance and incident management system on Interstate-4; the E-Pass toll collection system; and, a study of heavy truck movement at Florida seaports.

The E-pass is the most successful to

### Distinguished Researcher

Al-Deek. The internationally recognized program helps process vehicles faster and will ultimately make roads safer.

Al-Deek, who began studying transportation issues at the University of California at Berkeley, was lured to UCF partly because of the transportation and partly because of research being conducted by Civil Engineering Chair Essam Radwan.

Pravin Varaiya of the University of California at Berkeley says of Al-Deek: "There are only four or five researchers in transportation throughout the country that equal him in depth, breadth, and sheer output."

— Barb Compton



Jehane Hosni makes it a point to give students personal attention.

Her work is paying dividends for UCF's economics program. Since she started investing in that strategy, the number of students majoring in economics has doubled.

She contacts all undecided — and, therefore, potential economics — majors at UCF. Then, goes to high schools with teams of current UCF

### Faculty Advising

students to recruit. "I reach out. I see all of the students."

Hosni has been teaching at UCF since 1978 and advising for almost four years.

"It's really satisfying to see students leave here with their problems solved and a smile on their face — to know it is a step in the right direction."

— Susan Loden



If biology professor **Walter Taylor** ever wins the lottery, he's going to throw a reunion for the thousands of students he's taught during his 30 years at UCF. "I'm thankful for every student I've had, regardless of their performance," he says.

Taylor can never be accused of giving anything less than his best. Throughout his career, he has demanded as much from himself as he has from his students. "I try to give students their money's worth," he says.

Taylor is so committed to that philosophy he considers it his duty to motivate students who aren't trying hard enough. "That bothers me, to see them waste their time and their lives. It's my duty to make them see the light. You have to show students you are interested in their well-being," Taylor says.

"The most important thing about any job, you must make sure you are interested in your work. I've never gotten bored with this job. Being around students keeps you young."

— Susan Loden

## Undergraduate Teaching

**E. Ramon Hosler**, a mechanical engineering professor, says his commitment to the Society of Mechanical Engineering is directly linked to his work.

"I consider it an obligation as a professional to contribute something," he says.

Giving back is something he does well. Hosler is the society's assistant vice president for education for the Southeastern region. Since the 1980s, he's been involved in the society both locally and in Florida, holding a number of positions. He was faculty adviser to the group for about five years and faculty academic adviser to the engin-



## Professional Service

ering honor society. "The most rewarding thing is to see the students do well," he says.

— Susan Loden

**Bob Snow's** goal is to make sure freshmen feel good about UCF.

"It's rewarding to see them move on to their sophomore year and to know we have given good advice to get them to the next step," says Snow, director for First Year Advising and Information Services.

Snow works with freshmen even before they begin classes. "Leaving home can be good or bad ... I talk to them and welcome them to discuss majors. They all have to see me to make sure they're taking the right courses," he says.

"Advisers should be accessible, available and contin-



## Professional Advising

ually reaching out to students. Hopefully, they don't get lost as [UCF] gets bigger."

— Susan Loden



Some people can't stay away from the job, even when on sabbatical. **James McBrayer**, mechanical and aerospace engineering professor, is one of those people. Despite being on official leave to work on his research, he can often be found in his office advising undergraduate students.

"I'm from the old school," he says. "There's a priority; and for me, students come first."

For the record, McBrayer has about 40 students under his wing, but the number he advises on a regular basis is closer to 100. For him, advising means more than providing academic guidance. It also means offering career and, when necessary, personal advice. "If I see personal problems, I try to direct them to someone who can help. I want them to be successful, and I feel that is part of my responsibilities."

— Joanne Griggs

## Faculty Advising

Practice what you teach is a tactic that communication professor **Ed Wycoff** was practicing long before he became a teacher. He was a corporate presenter for 10 years before joining UCF 26 years ago.

In the past quarter century, he has spoken hundreds of times to international, national, regional, state and local audiences. "It's entertainment for me," says Wycoff. "I really like making audiences laugh."

His desire and ability to make others laugh started early. "I was a stand-up comedian in high school," he says.

He had them laughing again at his 45th reunion at Winter Park High last fall. Wycoff donates time for charitable organizations, such as the Orlando Lutheran Towers



## Professional Service

retirement community and Melbourne Performing Arts Guild. Forget slowing down his neck-breaking pace of professional service. "I've given a zillion speeches," he says. A zillion down, a zillion to go.

— Joanne Griggs

Biology professor **Jack Stout's** influence on the environment may not be highly visible, but it has had a far-reaching impact not only through his work but through the graduate students he's nurtured.

Stout has been working with graduate students for more than 25 years. "I work very hard to fit them with something they're going to enjoy, that they're fascinated with," he says. "Then, I try to find funding for them. I see myself as opportunistic. That is, I don't have a constant research theme, but often work in areas where there is a need."

Stout and his students have studied endangered plants and animals, including the gopher tortoise, the Southeastern beach mouse and bats.



## Graduate Teaching

Notably, Stout and five colleagues, along with UCF students, studied the impact of the space shuttle program on the surrounding environment before the launch pad was built.

— Joanne Griggs

## 20-Year Service

- Louis Acierno (Health Professions and Physical Therapy)
- Madjid Belkerdid (Electrical and Computer Engineering)
- Charles Cromer (FSEC)
- Burton Eno (Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering)
- Philip Fairey III (FSEC)
- Peter Gillett (Marketing)
- Walter Johnson (Accounting)
- Kenneth Kazmerski (Social Work)
- Linda Malone (Industrial Engineering and Management Systems)
- David Meador (Daytona Beach)
- Richard Miller (College of Engineering Dean's Office)
- Amar Mukherjee (Computer Science)
- John O'Hara (Communication)
- Roy Pickering (Music)
- Frances Smith (Nursing)
- Marcia Veit (Accounting)

## 30-Year Service

- James Brophy (Psychology)
- Douglas Brumbaugh (Instructional Programs)
- Wayne Burroughs (Psychology)
- Julius Charba (Molecular and Microbiology)
- Eugene Clark (Exceptional and Physical Education)
- Chris Clausen III (Chemistry)
- Glenn Cunningham (Chemistry)
- Llewellyn Ehrhart Jr. (Biology)
- Johann Eyfells (Art)
- Robert Gennaro (Molecular and Microbiology)
- Martin Heinzer (Mathematics)
- Roy Jones Jr. (Mathematics)
- Frank Kujawa (Chemistry)
- Marcella Kysilka (Educational Foundations)
- Stephen Levensohn (Philosophy)
- John Riser (Philosophy)
- Jack Rollins Jr. (Daytona Beach)
- Howard Sherwood (Mathematics)
- Franklin Snelson Jr. (Biology)
- Lawrence Tanzi (Communication)
- Walter Taylor (Biology)
- Phillip Tell (Psychology)
- David Vickers (Biology)
- Roseann White (Molecular and Microbiology)
- Carol Wilson (Educational Services)
- Alexander Wood (Educational Foundations)
- James Xander (Economics)

## Recently-Retired and Retiring Faculty

- Henry Anderson (Accounting)
- Robert Bollett (Educational Services)
- Johann Eyfells (Art)
- Elmar Fetscher (History)
- John Hartman (Civil and Environmental Engineering)
- David Ingram (Communicative Disorders)
- William Johnson (Educational Services)
- Steven Lotz (Art)
- Charles Nuckolls (Mechanical Materials and Aerospace Engineering)
- Frederick Raffa (Economics)
- Kenneth Renner (Exceptional and Physical Education)
- Phil Sciortino (Educational Foundations)
- Timothy Sullivan (Educational Foundations)
- Louis Trefonas (Chemistry)
- James Welke (Communication)
- Charles Wellman (Art)
- Wyatt Wyatt (English)

## Founders Award Students

- Michelle Eddleman • Corina Medley
- Charles Crawford • Susan Tolliver • Linda l'Anson • Dawn Towle • Jessica Mock

## Outstanding Thesis Award Students

- First Place**
- Anthony Gallagher
- Second Place**
- Roy Manning Jr.
- Third Place**
- Said Jardaneh



# Digging up info on Chases' work is easy

Modern technology and Caracol visitors center keep the curious up-to-date

UCF archaeologists Arlen and Diane Chase may spend months in the jungle and miles from running water and electricity, but they still stay up-to-date, plugged in and in touch.

Despite the rugged road leading to their ongoing archaeological dig, which is isolated from civilization in Caracol, Belize, the Chases communicate with UCF on a regular basis via a satellite phone. They also keep their award-winning Web site up-to-date

with day-by-day journal entries by Diane and the Chases' two grade-school children, Adrian and Aubrey, plus letters from 4-year-old Elyse to her teacher and classmates at the UCF Creative School.

After 15 years of working at Caracol, the Chases and their crew are no longer alone. Some 10,000 to 15,000 tourists visit annually since the Belizean government started allowing visits several years ago. Tour buses arrive regularly at the dig and visitors now have their own center, which officially opened last month.



A. Chase



D. Chase

"It's a real building with real walls," says Arlen of the visitors center.

That's big news there. All of the structures in the Caracol camp up to this point have been thatched-roof

huts. Although the center has a few artifacts, its focus is on educating visitors about Caracol and the ancient Maya.

"It's mostly huge, blown-up photos of the site during different stages of the work over the years," says Arlen. "The center explains glyphs [symbolic figures or characters used in writing by the Maya], the layout of Caracol

and the sort of information that helps tourists enjoy their visits."

Another spin-off of their work has been the development of a graduate certificate program in Maya studies at UCF. Diane is the program coordinator of the interdisciplinary program that includes offerings from history, political science and Spanish. Students study the ancient and contemporary people of Mexico, Guatemala and Belize. The program also includes a partnership with the Orlando Museum of Art.

For a look at the Chases' recent findings and a firsthand account of life on an archaeological site, check out their site at <http://www.caracol.org>.

—Joanne Griggs

## 'Cool House' melts power bills

FSEC uses energy-efficient home to prove power bills can be low in Florida

There truly is no place like home when it comes to the super energy-efficient house in Lakeland that Florida Solar Energy Center researchers designed.

In side-by-side tests with a twin house without the power-saving features, FSEC's "Cool House" used 83 percent less energy for air conditioning alone — saving \$70 a month, says researcher Danny Parker.

The Cool House has 400 square feet of solar electric cells on its roof, creating its own solar generation power plant. Cells are linked to send excess energy to the local utility plant. When the home uses more energy than it produces, energy is purchased from the same utility company.

Other methods of reducing energy are a power-efficient refrigerator and lighting and propane appliances. The house's roof is white with reflective tile. A thick layer of insulation is over the ceiling and a thinner layer covers concrete block walls. The house has double-glazed windows, and hot water is provided by a 40-square-foot solar collector with a propane backup.

"The house is designed to provide enough power during the utility peak so that it won't place a net demand on the [utility company] grid," says Parker. "If the concept proves viable, hundreds of houses like this could be built without increasing the need for utility generation capacity. That's a big accomplishment."

Skeptics only need to look back to June 18, 1998 — the hottest day on record in Lakeland — for proof that the Cool House is working. That day, the house used 72 percent less power for air conditioning than its twin to maintain the same interior temperature. Not only that, the Cool House was occupied; the control house was vacant.

"When you include the [solar panel] electric generation during that same peak period, the efficient home used 93 percent less energy than the

control home," says Ken Sheinkopf of FSEC.

The Cool House has since been sold and is now occupied, but

Parker says the purpose of the project was to use as many energy-saving features as possible, so cost-effectiveness was not a factor.

"A number of the items used were clearly not cost-effective, but several measures were very economically attractive," he says.

Besides the energy savings, there are other benefits, including a more durable roof and advanced insulated windows, which reduces noise and uneven temperature swings.

"This project proves the feasibility of what many have previously considered an idealistic fantasy: homes can be built in a hot climate ... [and] their energy appetite [can be reduced] to less than 10 percent of current loads," says Sheinkopf.

—Susan Loden

## Trial Team shines at nationals

The UCF Trial Team made a strong showing in its first appearance in national competition.

UCF finished tied with UCLA and Alabama for 14th among the 360 teams there, representing about 200 schools (including the entire Ivy League). The UCF team missed cracking the top 10 by just two of a possible 1,120 points in a complicated ranking formula.

In another near miss, Fermin Lopez, a UCF legal studies student, was a single point away from receiving the Intercollegiate All-American Attorney Award. UCF was named the Outstanding New School.

By finishing 14th, UCF beat out teams from such schools as Brown, Stanford, Princeton, Boston College, Columbia, Dartmouth, Georgetown, Air Force, Yale and Notre Dame. In fact, earlier UCF had beaten two of the schools that finished in the top 10.

A second UCF team was a runner-up for the national competition. UCF is hosting the Southeast Regionals next year.

HOOPS, continued from page 1

have repeated this year if not for other obligations. "We offered to play one game, winner take all," says Gracey. "We lost, even though we had beaten that team earlier in the day." Incidentally, the team the Fossils beat for the state championship in 1997 had a 6-foot-7 former professional with the Philadelphia 76ers.

Nevertheless, the second-place finish qualified the Fossils for the 1999 National Senior Games at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex in October.

Nowadays, of course, the four squeeze basketball games into their work schedules — Gracey is director for the Career Resource Center; Salter is an accounting professor; Renner is an exceptional and physical education professor; and, Anderton works for Science Applied International Corp. in downtown Orlando.

In their younger days all four were terrific athletes, dedicated to their sport. Renner, who acts as a player-coach for the Fossils, was captain of his high school basketball team. The other three played college ball — Salter at Auburn, Anderton at Tennessee and Gracey at Orlando College.

"Jim was the leading scorer at Orlando College for several years," says Renner. "He held a record

*"When we need younger players [to make up two teams], we tell the young guys jokingly that they can't jump, that it's a technical foul to let their toes leave the floor."*

Jim Gracey, UCF Fossil

there for a long time. He's still a great shooter. At last year's state finals, he hit 11 of 13 three-point attempts during one day of basketball."

The foursome refer to themselves as "the old guys," even though they continue to defy the usual definition of such. For 20 years they've been spending their lunch breaks playing hoops in the

Education Building gym.

"Actually, Ken and I played outside before UCF had a gym," Gracey says. "We know how to play together. I know where John and Dave are going to be, so we have an advantage in competition."

For the lunch-hour pick-up games — which often include students and young UCF workers in their prime — the five oldest guys start with the ball. "When we need younger players [to make up two teams], we tell the young guys jokingly that they can't jump, that it's a technical foul to let their toes leave the floor," Gracey says.

The pick-up games are good exercise and fun, but the Fossils get together for more formal practices to prepare for competitive games. Sometimes, they even spar with the state champs for the 60-65 age group from Winter Park. In tournaments, teams play three or four 20-minute games a day. "Dave and I are the long-distance shooters; John gets the rebounds off our misses and puts them in," Gracey says.

So how will the Fossils do come October's National Senior Games? "We'll get killed," Gracey says, "but it'll be a lot of fun."

—Joanne Griggs



## Employee of the month

**Name:** Geri Sciarrino  
**Title:** Office Manager  
**Department:** English  
**Job description:** Responsible for operation of the office, purchasing, setting up databases, training; works closely with the chair on the budget.  
**Length of Service:** 10 years  
**Background:** Office manager for a local development company.  
**Hobbies:** Heavily involved with UCF activities and family, biking, gardening, movies.  
**Quote:** "I work with a wonderful group of people. With UCF being so youth-oriented, it keeps us all young. It's always a challenge, and nothing remains the same."



Jacque Brund

In praise: "Geri... has engineered systems that let us communicate with community constituencies and lets the faculty know how much money remains in their travel accounts. The staff has gone from fatigued and frustrated to eager to be part of her vision of how a professional office runs. All members of the staff have become eager learners and the faculty have actually noticed how quickly travel problems get solved and how many of their needs

get handled. Geri accomplishes all of this with incredible grace, humor and intelligence. Our department is incredibly lucky to have her, and I am the luckiest of all chairs that she took us on as a project," Dawn Trouard, chair, English Department.

— Suzanne Ball

## Caught in the act



Jacque Brund

Children representing countries from around the world sing at the Education Showcase in the Education Gym on April 7. The annual showcase brings together community and university education resources for exhibits and displays.

## 76 faculty get PEP, TIP awards

The following were awarded 1998-99 Teaching Incentive Program and Professional Excellence Program awards:

**Teaching Incentive Program awards**  
**College of Health and Public Affairs:** Mark Lanier, Stephen Lytle, Karen Hassey-Dow, Ermalynn Kiehl, Mary Lou Sole, Diane Wink, Evan Berman.

**College of Arts and Sciences:** Frances Johnson, Ron Smith, Lokenath Debnath, Richard Caron, Joby Anthony, Marcela Del Rio, Otto Phanstiel, Brooks Madsen, Elmore Collins, Narsingh Deo, M. Bassiouni, Kien Hua, Bruce Pauley, Shirley Leckie, Randy Fisher, Michael Johnson, Roy Pickering, Jeffrey Moore, Paul Puccio, Jocelyn Bartkevicius, Kathleen Bell, Aubrey Jewett, Kerstin Hamann, David Jones.

**College of Business Administration:** Rajshree Agarwal, Stan Atkinson, Kristy Ellis-Reynolds, Ernest Gibbs, Michael Luckett, Russ Purvis, James Xander.

**College of Engineering:** Mohamed Abdel-Aty,

Issa Batarseh, Larry Chew, Ruey-Hung Chen, Avelino Gonzalez, Takis Kasparis, Tim Kotnour, Linda Malone, Fidelia Nnadi, Parveen Wahid.

**College of Education:** Kay Allen, Carl Balado, Patricia Higginbotham, Martha Lue, Jeanne Miller, George Pawlas.

**School of Optics:** Patrick Li Kam Wa, Michael Bass.

**Professional Excellence Program awards**  
**College of Arts and Sciences:** Jagdish Chavda, Amar Mukherjee, B.K. Shivamoggi, Fred Fedler, Lokenath Debnath, Mark Johnson, Richard Gilson, Robert Brigham, Ronald Dutton.

**Business Administration:** Abraham Pizam.  
**Education:** Douglas Brumbaugh, July Olson.  
**Engineering:** David Cooper, Donald Malocha, James Taylor, Wasfy Mikhael, Yasser Hosni.

**Health and Public Affairs:** Roseann White.  
**School of Optics:** George Stegeman, Martin Richardson.

## Welcome

**Emily Faile** — coordinator, Academic Support Services;  
**Bette Tallen** — assistant director, Office of Diversity Initiatives.

## Kudos

**Mary Bird** of the Instructional Technology Resource Center, **Gail West** of Educational Foundations, **Doug Brumbaugh** of Instructional Programs, **Glenda Gunter** of Educational Services, **Vicki Rath** of the Instructional Technology Resource Center, **Rita Kienle** of the Instructional Technology Resource Center, and **Donna Baumbach** of Educational Services were presenters at the 1999 Florida Educational Technology Conference in Orlando on March 18-20. Baumbach was one of five nationally recognized invited speakers and Bird was a highlighted speaker on the program. Baumbach was also named Florida Educational Technology Leader of the Year by the Florida Association for Computers in Education in collaboration with the Florida Council of Instructional Technology Leaders.

**Karen Breakell**, director for Constituent Relations, has been selected as a 1999 "40 Under 40" award recipient. She was profiled in the April 9 *Orlando Business Journal* and honored at a "40 Under 40" luncheon in the Presidential Ballroom at Church Street Station on the same day. In related news, Breakell and two other UCF employees — **Helen Donegan**, director for Community Relations, and **Rosellen Kraus**, assistant director for the Small Business Development Center — were nominated for the *Orlando Business Journal's* Businesswoman of the Year annual recognition.

**Kevin Meehan**, assistant English professor, was a panel chair and respondent in "Crediting America: African American — Caribbean Cultural Dialogue as Decolonizing" for the American Studies Association in Seattle.

**Dawn Reno**, visiting English instructor, wrote "On Holiday," a short story published in *Futures*. She presented "Mary Shelley and Frankenstein" for PEN Women in Volusia County.

**Gerald Schiffhorst**, English professor, published a review of "The Tudor Image," by Maurice Howard, "Tudor and Jacobean Jewelry," by Diana Scarisbrick, and "The Body Emblazoned," by Jonathan Sawday.

**Bettie Sommer**, associate English professor, presented "Syntactic Features of Gullah and Southern English" for the American Dialect Society in Atlanta.

**Peter Telep**, visiting English instructor, published his novel "Descent."

**Beth Young**, assistant English professor, presented "Can You Proofread This?" at the National Peer Tutoring Conference in Plattsburgh, N.Y. She was the keynote presenter at the conference.

Faculty, staff, alumni and students who are outstanding leaders were recognized during Leadership Week 1999. Faculty Leadership Awards winners are **Lokenath Debnath** (mathematics), **John Whitney** (music), **Robert Pennington** (economics), **Robert Martin** (instructional programs), **Vimal Desai** (engineering) and **Elizabeth Stullenbarger** (nursing). A&P Leadership Award winners are **Bruce Humphrey** (College of Business Administration), **Ron Eaglin** (College of Engineering), **Myrna Creasman** (College of Business Administration), **Wayne Keyes** (College of Education), **Lee Anne Kirkpatrick** (College of Arts and Sciences), **Mary McKinney** (Student Development and Enrollment Services), **Chris Morgan** (Academic Affairs) and **Montel Watson** (Student Development and Enrollment Services). USPS Leadership Award winners are **Ann Houser** (College of Business Administration), **Donna Danzis** (Administration and Finance), **Linda Esposito** (Student Development and Enrollment Services), **Martha Lyons-Brooks** (College of Health and Public Affairs), **Judith Montilla** (College of Education), **Heather Oakes** (College of Arts and Sciences), **Lillian Ruiz** (College of Engineering) and **Geri Sciarrino** (College of Arts and Sciences).



Desai



Pennington



Stullenbarger



# CALENDAR

15

**Theatre** (through April 25): "A Piece of My Heart," by Shirley Lauro. 823-1500

16

**Lecture:** Robert Ballard, leader of Titanic expedition, Student Resource Center Auditorium, free, 8 p.m. 823-6471  
**Open forum:** Central Florida Quality Exchange, 12424 Research Parkway, Ste. 225, free, 8:30-10 a.m. 275-4330

17

**Music:** Spring Choral Concert — UCF choirs, conductor David Brunner, Oakridge High School Choir, Visual Arts Building Auditorium, 8 p.m. 823-2869  
**Open house:** Scholars Day, Visual Arts Building, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 823-5437

19

**Music:** UCF Percussion Ensembles — Visual Arts Building, 8 p.m. 823-2869  
**Seminar:** "Office Professionals," \$20, includes continental breakfast, lunch and materials, Student Union, 8:30 a.m.-12:50 p.m. 207-4920

20

**Sports:** Baseball vs. South Florida, Tinker Field, 7 p.m. 823-2729

20-21

**Lecture:** "Leadership: The Critical Difference," by Barry Woolf, Research Pavilion. <http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~conted> or 856-6585

21

**Symposium:** "Wildlife on the Edge," Student Union, Key West Ballroom, free, 1-5 p.m. 823-6524

## Calling all UCF walkers

The UCF Walk Team is getting ready for the March of Dimes "WalkAmerica." The team will walk Saturday, April 24, at Loch Haven Park. To join the walk, call team captain **Betty Conklin** of the Community Relations Office, 317-7725 or [bconklin@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:bconklin@mail.ucf.edu). Team walkers must raise at least \$25 to receive an official UCF Team T-shirt, food ticket and qualify for prizes, including a weekend getaway, dinner for two and theme park tickets. Additional incentives will be offered by the March of Dimes.

## Mosey on over, ya all

The 27th annual USPS Awards Banquet is July 9 at the Holiday Inn/UCF. This year's theme is "Nashville Knights" and the banquet will have a Grand Ole Opry setting. Those attending are encouraged to dress as their favorite country star — past or present — or just wear western duds. There will be an "Opry Stage" for anyone wishing to share his or her talents. Tickets are \$17. Also, the banquet committee is looking for a country band to entertain for the evening. For information, call 823-5756 or e-mail [sandra.hall@bus.ucf.edu](mailto:sandra.hall@bus.ucf.edu).

## Retirement party

Longtime employee Jim Gracey's retirement celebration is Thursday, April 29, 2-4 p.m. in the Student Union, Cape Florida Ballroom. He is retiring on June 30 after 30 years at UCF. He served as assistant director in Human Resources 1969-1972 and has been director of the Career Resource Center since 1973. For information, call Jill Ziegenfuss, assistant director for the Career Resource Center, at 823-3313.

22

**Awards:** Dr. John T. Washington Awards Luncheon, Student Union, Key West Ballroom, \$34, noon-2 p.m. 823-0026  
**Event:** UCF Women's Club spring installation luncheon, Maison & Jardin Restaurant, 430 S. Wymore Road, Altamonte Springs, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. RSVP: 671-0758  
**Lecture:** Noontime Knowledge Series — "Breakthrough Thinking: Changing the Way We Solve Problems," Gerald Nadler, lunch \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door, Downtown Academic Center, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. 317-7700

**Meeting:** Faculty Senate, Student Union, Garden Key room, 4-5:15 p.m.  
**Music:** Orchestra Spring Concert — St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Oviedo, 7:30 p.m. 823-2869

24

**Event:** March of Dimes-UCF WalkAmerica, Loch Haven Park, 7:30 a.m. 317-7725  
**Sports:** Baseball vs. Jacksonville, Tinker Field, 10 a.m. 823-2729

24-25

**Circus:** Shrine Circus, UCF Arena, 10 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. 660-8811

25

**Sports:** Baseball vs. Jacksonville, Tinker Field, 1 p.m. 823-2729

29

**Lecture:** "The Modern Metropolitan University and Its Mission," Paige Mulhollan, founding member of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities, Student Union, Garden Key room, 2:30-4:30 p.m. 823-2302  
**Lecture:** Noontime Knowledge Series — "Publication Design for the Non-Designer," Mindy Colton, Downtown Academic Center, free, noon-1 p.m. 823-7700

30

**Lecture:** "The Implications of the Metropolitan University Mission for Strategic Planning," Paige E. Mulhollan, Student Union, Cape Florida room, 8:30-11:30 a.m. 823-2302

April 1

**Art** (Library exhibits through April 30): "In Fitting Memory," by Eva Ritt; "Spanish Across the Curriculum," by Maria Redmon; "Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Awareness Month," by Erika Pugh; "Excellence in Computer Science," by Udaya Vemulapate; "College of Education Faculty Publications," by Larry Hudson; "Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival 10th Anniversary," by Christine Card.

**Art** (through May 3): 1999 BFA Exhibition, UCF Art Gallery. 823-2676

**Theater** (through May 1): OSF — "Twelfth Night," Lake Eola, 245-0985

**Theater** (through May 2): OSF — "Henry V," Lake Eola, 245-0985

For a more complete calendar, check out the universitywide listing on the Web (<http://www.ucf.edu/pubrel/>).

# April



# CLASSIFIED

## For Sale

**Camper.** Sandpiper, 18 ft., sleeps 5, fully applaned. \$1,300 obo. 924-7890.

**Condo,** great rental property in Tuskawilla, 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, all electronics. Near golf course & other amenities. Mitch, 856-6585.

**Home,** 2/2 in Palm Valley, 55+ community, 3 miles north of UCF off Alafaya Trail, 1,056 sq. ft. (24'x44'), move in condition. \$34,500 obo. 366-0314.

**Power rider,** includes instructional videotapes, \$50. 306-0734, after 5 p.m.

**Sofa,** with two recliners, blue, pin-striped, good condition \$300. 306-0734, after 5 p.m.

**Waterbed,** king-size, mirrored headboard w/ shelves, storage pedestal, all pine, heater, mattress, liner, padded velour side rails. All 3 years old. Over \$1,100 invested; will sell for \$600. Betty, 823-5061 or after hours at 380-2017.

## For Rent

**First-class accommodations,** in historic downtown Orlando. Fran, 823-2850 and leave message.

**Vacation House** in Asheville, N.C., lovely, newly constructed 3/2 cedar home. View of mountains; 20 minutes from Biltmore House/Gardens. Tastefully furnished; 2 fireplaces. Wrap-around decking. Sleeps 6. Available by

week or month. 695-4416 or e-mail [siebert@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu](mailto:siebert@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu).

## Wanted

**House sitting or rental opportunity,** for a female faculty member coming to UCF as a visiting professor in communication, from August 1999 to May 2000. Call Phil Taylor at 823-2852 for details.

## Official Ballot to Spotlight Employee of the Month

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_

(name)

(campus address)

to be UCF Employee of the Month. (Nominee must have been a University Support Personnel System employee at least two years.) Any employee, including faculty and A&P, may nominate a candidate on the basis of job performance, dependability, attitude, etc. A name submitted remains in the pool of eligible candidates for one year.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

(name)

(campus address, phone)

Cut ballot and return to Human Resources, ADM 230, EOM. (Mark envelope "confidential.")